

Public Switched Telephone Network, a wireless telephony network, a wireless data network, the Internet, an intranet, and a cable television network.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required Petition fee to Deposit Account No. **50-3024**.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees or credit any excess to our Deposit Account No. **50-3024**.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the Application by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

All of the pending claims in the application, claims 55 and 57-64, have been canceled. In lieu thereof, Applicant has substituted all 67 of the issued claims in the earliest parent application hereof, now USP 6,504,921, and has added an additional limitation to all 15 of the independent claims thereof.

For example, issued claim 1 of USP 6,504,921, with the added limitation in bold, reads as follows as new claim 65 herein:

"65 (new). A method for providing telecommunications services in a telecommunications network, comprising the steps by a telecommunications service provider of: monitoring data relating to communications initiation criteria for at least two communicants in the telecommunications network; and initiating **at least one of e-mail and instant-messaging** communications between the at least two communicants by determining, by processing the data comprising geographic data, that the criteria have been met."

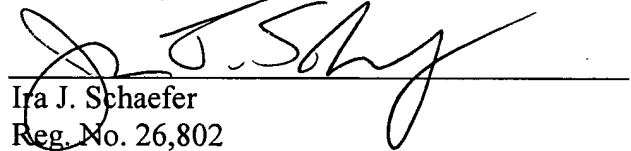
The 15 independent claims newly presented are: 65, 80-84, 93, 108-113, 122-123.

The corresponding independent claims of USP 6,504,921 are: 1, 16-20, 29, 44-49, 58-59. These changes have been made for convenience in presenting this amendment, and have not been made to overcome any prior art reference or to overcome a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112.

The Examiner rejected claims 55 and 57-64 over DuVal (USP 5,818,836), Zwick (USP 5,701,340) in view of DuVal, and Leipow (USP 6,148,067) in view of DuVal. Inasmuch as all three of these references were considered in the parent application whose claims are incorporated herein with additional limitations, Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 65-131 patentably distinguish over the art of record and respectfully requests an early favorable action on the merits.

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Respectfully submitted,


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